Attorney Docket:

951/49160

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MARTIN PELLER ET AL.

Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED PCT No. PCT/EP99/01163

Filed: September 11, 2000

Title: OPERATING METHOD FOR A DATA BUS WITH A

PLURALITY OF NODES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT Application

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

A substitute specification is submitted herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-4 and add new claims 5-11 as follows:

5. A process for operating a plurality of nodes through configured data bus wherein said nodes are in communication with one another through said configured data bus, said method

comprising the steps of:

connecting at least one of said nodes through a light guide to said data bus configuration;

providing synchronizing pulses to synchronize each of said nodes;

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